

In the Claims:

Please ~~cancel~~ claim 1 and add the following new claims.

A13 2. (New) A device for recording pictures of a plurality of parcels continuously conveyed past the device in a conveying direction, wherein each of the parcels has a height and a surface containing distribution information, the device comprising:

a camera aligned perpendicular to the parcel surface to be recorded, wherein said camera includes a CCD sensor and a camera lens having a zoom lens;

at least one sensor upstream of the camera, said at least one sensor measuring the height of the parcel to be recorded;

a control device for generating adjustment signals for the camera in dependence on the measured parcel height,

wherein the camera further includes a zoom adjustment lens actuated by the control device to maintain a consistent picture scale independent of variances in the measured heights of the parcels; and

at least two lighting devices arranged crosswise in the conveying direction to beam light onto the parcel surface at an angle to ensure that the parcel surface to be recorded is illuminated uniformly and without shadows.

3. (New) The device of claim 2, wherein the camera further includes a zoom adjustment drive comprising a linear motor to adjust the zoom adjustment lens.

Applicant(s) Peter STAMM
Appl. No. 09/831,086

In the Abstract:

Please cancel the abstract on page 6 of the application, and replace it with the Abstract of the Disclosure attached hereto.